



...CLUB NEWSLETTER EST. 1947

Southern California DX Club Newsletter

JUNE 2015

The Southern California DX Club is a group of dedicated men and women active in the amateur radio community who enjoy communicating over the air with other radio amateurs around the world.

The SCDXC strongly supports the DX Code of Conduct. Please visit their website:

www.dx-code.org

The SCDXC newsletter is published monthly and released to club members around the first of each month. Amateur and DX related letters, news and pictures are welcome and will be published as time and space permit.

Articles may be republished with recognition of the author and the club. Reuse of copyrighted materials require the original author's permission.

Any questions regarding this newsletter or its articles should be addressed to the Editor, Diana, AI6DF, at:

ai6df@scdxc.org

Club meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM except April, June and December.

Please check the club web site for events and details at:

<http://www.scdxc.org>

If you are in the area please say hello on our repeater:

W6AM/R 145.48, (-) PL 100.0



"If you need him get in there and work him"

In our June 2015 issue...

From the Desk of the President: <i>George Jacob, N6VNI</i>	2
Vice President's Corner: <i>Doug Millar, K6JEY</i>	3
Other SCDXC events in place of meetings	3
"Creative Destruction": <i>Diana Feinberg, AI6DF</i>	4
Summer Picnic Information	5
Tidbits	6
More Tidbits	7
More DX Tidbits	8-9
Upcoming DXpeditions: <i>Diana Feinberg, AI6DF</i>	10
Latest "Get Schroeder" Standings	11
Propagation Report: <i>Diana Feinberg, AI6DF</i>	12
2015 SCDXC Officers and Directors	13
HAMCON 2015 / ARRL Southwestern Div. Convention	14
VE Testing Information	15
Visit (and support) our Advertisers	16

From the Desk of the President

George Jacob, N6VNI
2015 President – SCDXC
N6VNI@scdxc.org



George, N6VNI

First, my neck surgery is coming along nicely. Since getting out of the hospital after a two-day stay I can't sleep at home. I am up and down all night long trying to find just that right spot to put my head down for a few hours of sleep with no luck. I play music that keeps the family up, try to catch up on emails that keeps my house guest Uncle Marty KF6ZSG up half the night. So the quest goes on to get some sleep.

I was looking forward to going to the May meeting. All dressed and ready to go when it started to rain here in La Habra. All I could remember was the doctor saying just before leaving St. Jude hospital, "Do not get yourself in a situation that might damage the work that I have done on your neck." So the first thing that came to mind was it is raining and you could get into a car accident. So home I stayed.

At the start of the New Year I tried something to help get the word out about the no-host dinner before the club meeting at the Sizzler Restaurant. And once again there were over thirty members at the Sizzler restaurant for dinner. I would also like to thank Mel K6SY for designing, building and supplying some of voices from his staff for the DVR's and composing some of the announcements that will help get the word out also about the club activities and the club events. The next announcement could be about the upcoming annual picnic.

The next club event will be the annual picnic. The date is June 14th at Woodley Park in Van Nuys under the trees and near the restrooms, start time 11:00 a.m. Doug Millar K6JEY your vice president will be heading up this event so please check with Doug. I know he will appreciate any and all help he can get to make the picnic a total success.

The Summer Bash will be held by the members of the San Diego DX Club this year. More information will be posted in this newsletter as to when and where.

If someone is interested in working Field Day, please contact Carolyn Jacob W6VNI @ 562 400 7171. Carolyn is the president of the Western Amateur Radio Association or better known as WARA. This will be the first time in fifteen years that WARA will be holding its own Field Day.

Until the next time,

73 and GOOD DX

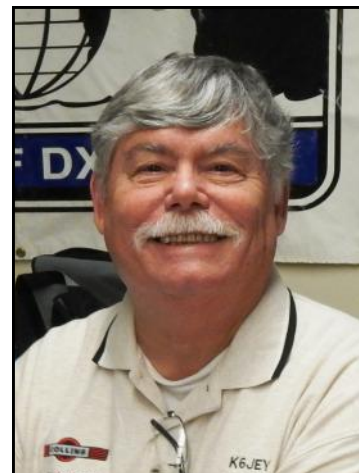
De

George T. Jacob Jr. N6VNI

SCDXC PRESIDENT ◆

Vice President's Corner

Doug Millar, K6JEY
2015 SCDXC Vice President
drzarkof56@yahoo.com



Doug, K6JEY

Hope you are having a great start to your summer. Be sure to enjoy Field Day somewhere and get out and do some operating. The picnic is coming up at the beginning of the month with good friends, great food and some very nice prizes.

Thanks to Joe K5KT for a great presentation at our May meeting on putting up large antennas. His pictures and descriptions covered many details that anyone wanting to put up a large antenna would want to know. To cap it off, Joe got the antenna, really antennas, up and working fine. It was interesting how he wove a 75m antenna along the boom of the antenna. Thanks again, Joe.

The microphone pageant at the meetings has been fun and I hope mildly educational. Thanks to those who brought in microphones. At our next regular meeting in July I will feature electret condenser microphones. I have an AKG and two Electro Voice models. These are normally inexpensive and able to be highly miniaturized, yet have a very broad frequency response. They are also extremely rugged. If we can hook it up, K5KT has a great example of a headset mic that he says is excellent. We will get a chance to compare all four. It should be interesting.

I have confirmed Eric from Elecraft coming to do the talk in November. With their new K3s out, it should be an interesting presentation. Someone in the club might want to bring their K3s for show and tell. I'll bring an older one.... I am also looking at getting a talk on Panadapters for one of the Fall meetings. Let me know if you have any suggestions for talk topics, etc.

See you at the picnic.

73,

Doug, K6JEY ♦

Upcoming SCDXC Events in place of monthly meetings:

Sunday, June 14 — SCDXC Summer Picnic, Woodley Area Park, Grove 1, in Sepulveda Basin Recreation Area. 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. For more information see Page 5.

Sunday, August 2 — Summer Bash in Escondido. SDDXC hosting at QTH of Jim Stevenson, W6YI, 10250 Paso de Flora, Escondido. Noon to 4:00 pm. Additional information to follow.

Sunday, December 13 — SCDXC Holiday Party. Orange Hill Restaurant, 6410 E. Chapman Ave., Orange. 11:30 am to 3:00 pm. More info to follow.

The “Creative Destruction” theory in economics holds true in the business of amateur radio

Diana Feinberg, AI6DF
Editor – SCDXC Newsletter

When HF hexbeam antenna pioneer Traffie Technologies announced on May 28, 2015 it was shutting operations this was just another chapter in the recent economics of amateur radio.

The past 18 months, by my count, have seen a large number of business changes in amateur radio as the ham market experiences low growth and only modest profitability relative to other electronics segments.

Ignoring Radio Shack's demise, we've also seen:

- Bencher CW keys sold to competitor Vibroplex
- Bencher's Butternut antennas sold to DX Engineering
- Vibroplex and DX Engineering each acquiring marketing rights to even more amateur radio products
- RF Concepts (Alpha Amplifiers), having merged with Ten-Tec a year earlier, recently sold to one of their suppliers
- Austin Amateur Radio Supply closes its doors, Feb. 2015
- Tokyo Hy-Power amplifiers goes bankrupt, Dec. 2013
- (Anecdotal) Large numbers of inexpensive Baofeng/Paofung HT radios being sold by Amazon.com (i.e., not through amateur radio stores).

There will certainly be other business changes ahead, but the financial reality is that manufacturers, distributors, and retailers need profitability exceeding their cost of capital to avoid eventually going out of business—or being sold to another firm (who might not be fully committed to ham radio.). Then there's Joseph Schumpeter's theory of “Creative Destruction” that fits neatly with amateur radio's history.

“Creative Destruction” isn't about blowing-up radios or antennas. Austrian-American economist Schumpeter maintained in 1950 that the ongoing forces of capitalism will unleash changes capable of destroying the existing order of any industry or product category. In other words, newer firms will develop new technologies, new services, lower price points, or new distribution methods that uproot long-time industry leaders and their profitability. Sounds logical.

**Amateur radio victims
of “Creative Destruction”**

U.S. Amateur Radio Maker	Year began amateur radio equipment	Year of last amateur equipment	Disposition of Business
National Radio	1923	Early 1970's	Closed, 1991
Hammarlund	1925	1971	Firm sold several times in 1960's, amateur radios phased out
Hallicrafters	1932	1975	Sold to Northrop 1971, non-government products phased out
Collins Radio	1947	1985	Ham products phased out to focus on avionics, government lines
Drake	1948	2005	Sold to Blonder-Tongue Labs, 2012
Swan	1960	1976	Sold to Cubic Corporation, 1973

Remember these guys? They were either sold to firms focused on the non-amateur business segments or slow moving into solid-state circuitry and digital synthesis at competitive price points. New competitors who took over the market for ham transceivers now face newer firms focusing on software-defined radios.

While seeking further economies of scale will be critical for those in ham radio segments given the low growth and relatively small market size we shouldn't rule out further “Creative Destruction” from newer technology, especially involving software and low-cost microprocessors.

Yes, economists have long been erratic. Irish playwright George Bernard Shaw wrote over 100 years ago “If all the economists in the world were laid end to end they still would not reach a conclusion.” But surely “Creative Destruction” is an economist's conclusion that's fit for and welcome in amateur radio. ♦

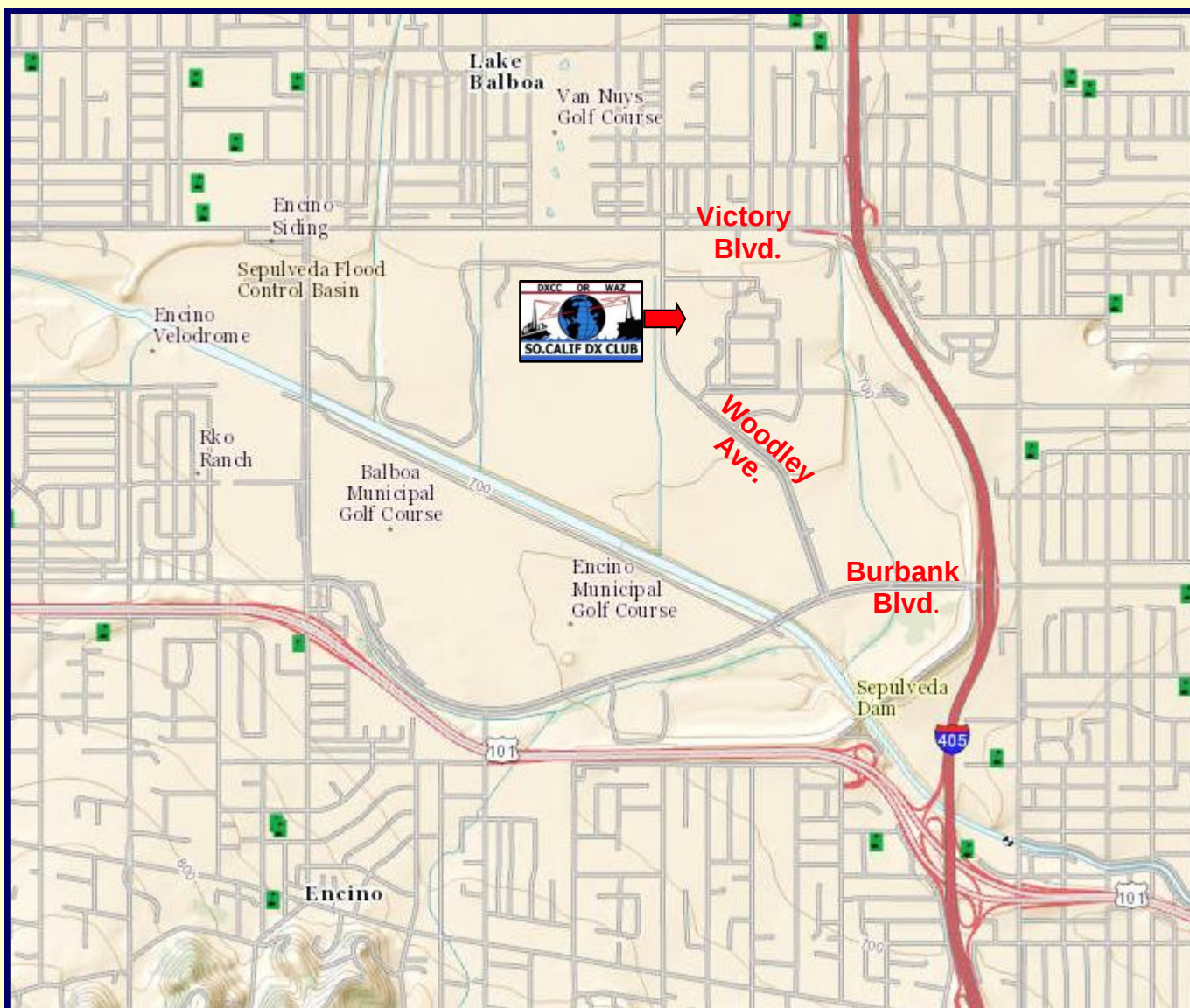
All SCDXC members and their families are welcome at our annual Summer Picnic: June 14, 11:00 am to 3:00 pm

The SCDXC's annual Summer Picnic is June 14th from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm in Woodley Park, adjacent to Van Nuys in the Sepulveda Basin Recreational Area. We're in Grove 1, just off the east side of Woodley Avenue, south of Victory Blvd. SCDXC signs will identify the location and our W6AM repeater (145.480 MHz, PL 100.0) will be monitored for talk-in purposes if you get lost.

Our club is providing all the picnic's meat items, condiments, utensils, and many beverages. Our menu includes grilled hamburgers, hot dogs, veggie burgers, some chicken, and perhaps ??? (no, not "mystery meat.") However, all members attending are asked to bring a side dish or dessert.

Grove 1 has plenty of shade trees for comfort. Hope to see you there on June 14th!

We're here at Woodley Park, Grove 1: Take the **405 Freeway** north or south and exit at either Burbank Ave. or Victory Blvd. Go west to Woodley Avenue. Go north from Burbank Ave. or south from Victory Blvd. to parking area west of Tillman Water Reclamation Plant. Look for the SCDXC signs and logo.
BASE MAP IMAGE: U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



Tidbits...

HAMCON 2015 / ARRL Southwestern Division Convention is Sept. 11-13

It only happens once every four years:

HAMCON, the ARRL Southwestern Division Convention, is coming to the Los Angeles area this September.

Register now for HAMCON 2015 / the 2015 ARRL Southwestern Division Convention during Sept. 11-13 at the Torrance Marriott Hotel. A full Vendor Room of 65 booth spaces and a wide range of interesting Tech Talks are slated. Registration is \$22 before August 1; \$27 afterward and at the door.

The Tech Talks will cover four program tracks: DXing and Contesting; Emergency Communication; General Ham and Technical topics; and Topics for Newer Amateur Operators.

The Torrance Marriott Hotel also has a special discounted room rate for HAMCON 2015 attendees. Only available through August 15, 2015, HAMCON attendees may book sleeping rooms for \$119 per night, including free in-room high-speed internet and \$5 discounted parking.

Book now by visiting HAMCON's website at: www.hamconinc.org and go to the **Menu** area to register or book hotel rooms through a special reservation portal exclusively for HAMCON attendees. ♦



Field Checking of QSL Cards by N6QQ and N6HC

QSL cards for new DXCC awards and endorsements may be checked by an approved DXCC Card Checker. This program applies to any DXCC award for an individual or station. Awards available can be found in Section I: Basic Rules, [Rule 1](#).

1) Entities Eligible for Field Checking:

Except for 160 meters, cards for all current and deleted entities dating back to November 15, 1945 can be checked. Cards for 160 Meters can only be checked by card checkers who currently hold an active 160 Meter DXCC. Check out the complete list of [DXCC 160 Meter Card Checkers](#).

CQ AWARDS...

CQ Awards except 160 Meter WAZ, Digital WAZ, 6 Meter, Satellite, EME and 5BWAZ endorsements and new 5BWAZ applications with 170 or more zones.

Both Arnie, N6HC, and John, N6QQ, can check cards. If you live in Orange County, Arnie would be happy to check cards for both ARRL and CQ. If you would like to contact N6QQ, call 562-404-1112 or n6qq@msn.com ♦

World's largest HF discone antenna now ready for you

Perhaps you've been to the Titan Missile Museum about 12 miles south of Tucson, AZ. Not only is there a full Titan missile in a silo for visiting but there's also the world's biggest HF discone antenna available for visiting hams to use in portable mode. Just connect the coax cable to your rig on 40, 20, 17, 15, 12, 10, or 6 meters.

This massive Collins discone recently was upgraded with new coax and lighting. You can view an 11-minute video of this work at:

<http://jrquark.smugmug.com/GVARC/Discone-Antenna-Repair-May/n-k9TmgP/>

The Green Valley Amateur Radio Club in Green Valley, AZ, helps maintain this antenna. You can check out their website at: <http://gvarc.us/> or the missile museum at <http://www.titanmissilemuseum.org/> ♦

More Tidbits...

2016 DX Convention hotel reservations open June 8

Hotel reservations for the 2016 International DX Convention in Visalia can be made starting at 10:00 am PDT on June 8, 2015.

Reservations for Visalia hotels will be taken using the Passkey internet reservation system; no phone reservations will be used. Beginning at 10:00 am, June 8, click on:

<https://aws.passkey.com/event/13906221/owner/3376301/landing>

You may book, modify, or cancel room reservations through the Passkey system 24 hours a day through March 15, 2016. Based on past experience, the two hotels closest to the Visalia Convention Center (Marriott and downtown Comfort Inn) will fill very quickly.

This reservations link is also found on the DX Convention tab in our SCDXC website, www.scdxc.org.

The 2016 International DX Convention runs during April 13-16. ♦

Dorothy Grant Elementary School thanks SCDXC

The SCDXC members whose generosity enabled a group of young students to attend this year's International DX Convention were thanked during our May 14th monthly meeting.

Dorothy Grant Elementary School teacher Beverly Matheson, WA6BK, spoke at last month's meeting with great appreciation for the SCDXC's financial support. She also showed Thank You cards her students made. They all had a wonderful time in Visalia and are continuing their amateur radio journey back in Fontana. ♦

Upcoming contests

By John Schroeder, N6QQ

Summer conditions have already started. Deep Russia stations are on between 9:00 pm to midnight, Local time.

Contests for June:

ARRL June VHF Contest - June 13-15.

This is one the best weekends of the year for working Es stations. Maybe a little F2 also.

All Asian DX Contest CW, June 20-21.

Not just JA's.

ARRL Field Day, June 27-28.

Have you picked which club station you are going to operate from ??

If want to direct to the Clublog site for SCDXC, go to this site:

<http://www.clublog.org/league.php?club=60>

If you want to check out other contests, go to this site:

<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/contestcal.html>

73 John -- N6QQ

ARRL and CQ awards QSL Checker ♦

We say again: There's no club meeting at WEMS this month

To ensure that no one shows up at the doors of WEMS, Inc. on June 11 expecting a monthly SCDXC meeting, we'll say again: There's no monthly meeting on the 2nd Thursday in June.

Instead, we are holding our annual Summer Picnic at Woodley Park near Van Nuys on Sunday, June 14th (see page 5 for details). ♦

More DX Tidbits...

Achievements: Arnie, N6HC, Makes DXCC #1 Honor Roll

Shortly after the May SCDXC Newsletter was published our fellow member Arnie Shatz, N6HC, sent the following news:

"It has been two years since I updated my DXCC totals for the newsletter.

I finally made #1 Honor Roll - Mixed Mode - after 58 years in amateur radio!

I lack one entity on Phone (Juan De Nova, Europa) for #1 Honor Roll on the SSB mode. I lack one entity on CW to qualify for CW Honor roll.

My totals are mixed = 340 and total = 348. I don't keep track of my WAZ statistics."

Congratulations, Arnie! ♦

Bouvet Island 3Y DXpedition canceled due to funding

Mark, ON4WW, announced on May 9 that he regrettably canceled his planned "one-man, three-month" DXpedition to Bouvet Island due to funding issues.

Despite Bouvet Island currently at #2 on ClubLog's "Most Wanted" list ON4WW said he was unable to obtain sufficient financial backing owing to several major (and very costly) DXpeditions over the next year competing for the same funding pool. He indicated the "one-man" DXpedition concept is still somewhat controversial among organizations funding major DXpeditions.

ON4WW had obtained all permissions for operating on Bouvet over a three-month period and cleared his personal schedule to do so. He hopes someone else will be able to activate Bouvet Island in the future.

Bouvet is one of the world's most remote islands, situated 1,600 miles SSW of South Africa and 1,100 miles north of Antarctica. ♦



Extremely remote **Bouvet Island (red circle)** is uninhabited except for occasional scientific expeditions. The island is currently a Norwegian dependency and was declared a nature reserve in 1971.

MAP IMAGE CREDIT: Used under Creative Commons license; https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Bouvet_Island

Additional SCDXC Information

Treasurer's Report

Club financial information is available on request. Contact the Treasurer.

Officer Guidelines

The SCDXC's Officers Guidelines are available on our website. See hyperlink below.

Code of Conduct

SCDXC endorses the [DX Code of Conduct](#)

Membership

SCDXC membership is open to all radio amateurs interested in DXing. Full Membership is only available to those residing in 11 Southern California counties who have earned DXCC or WAZ. Associate Members are also welcomed.

Dues are \$24 annually (+\$6 for each additional family member.) An application is on our website for joining on-line using PayPal payment or by downloading a printable membership form and paying by check. For additional membership information and information about the SCDXC visit our website at:

<http://www.scdxc.org/membership.html>

More DX Tidbits...

VK0EK Heard Island DXpedition re-scheduled to March-April 2016—but with smaller ship, fewer operators

The VK0EK DXpedition team issued this press release on May 14, 2015 through its leader, Dr. Robert Schmieder, KK6EK:

"Events over the past month have forced a significant change in the plans for the Expedition. In particular, Heritage Expeditions (Rodney Russ) promised to provide the vessel Shokalskiy for the voyage. From the beginning it was stated, and then included in the draft contract, that the vessel would stay in the vicinity of Heard Island for the entire time (3 weeks).

However, about 2 weeks ago, when it came time to complete and sign the contract, it suddenly became clear that Russ had contracted for outside work during the time we were to be on Heard Island. Clearly, he intended to drop us off and then return 3 weeks later to pick us up. This was patently unacceptable from a safety and operational point of view, and when I tried to negotiate the point Russ became belligerent, claiming the Russians demanded a decision that very day, and abruptly cancelled the deal.

As a consequence, I was suddenly faced with the situation of a great plan and team but no vessel. I knew of only one alternative, namely the vessel Braveheart, owned and operated by Nigel Jolly, also from New Zealand. I reached Nigel by telephone at a conference in Rotterdam, and explained the problem, and then asked whether it might be possible that the Braveheart would be available for the voyage (I already knew that he had a charter for the best month January). After a few days, Nigel returned with a proposal: he could take us to Heard Island in March, 2016. Over the next week we discussed the basic parameters and he provided a draft contract taken from other contracts he had used. A few days ago he offered a 44-day trip leaving from Cape Town, South Africa, to Heard Island for 21 days, then on to Fremantle, Western Australia. The price would be US\$350k. The major limitation is that the Braveheart carries only 14 passengers.

Faced with the awful choice between a smaller expedition with a smaller vessel, and a larger expedition with no vessel, I chose the former. After several days, I was able to get assurance from the AAD that the required vessel inspection could be done in Cape Town, that the Braveheart would be permitted to sail to Heard Island from Cape Town, that we could obtain the AAD-required Public Liability Insurance (a \$20 million policy), and that our major sponsor, the Northern California DX Foundation would approve the change. With those issues satisfied, I made the decision to sign the contract for the Braveheart, and did so. At 6:00 PM California time, I put up a NEWS item on our website www.heardisland.org/NEWS/.

I know this development will be a bit of a shock for almost everyone, and it will significantly impact the role of some of you in the expedition. For any inconvenience or complication this will cause, I am sorry. For those who have put in payments on your fair share participation costs, if it turns out that you cannot go to Heard Island, you will receive your deposits back, with my appreciation for your faith in the project. Some of you, particularly the radio operators, will be able to go, so your payments will stay in, and we will expect the next payment June 30. If you are unable to go but still want to participate in some way, there will be ample opportunity for you to obtain specimens, data, help in preparations, and in many other ways enjoy the pleasure of helping make the project happen without the discomfort of the rock-and-roll boat ride that the Southern Ocean will treat us with.

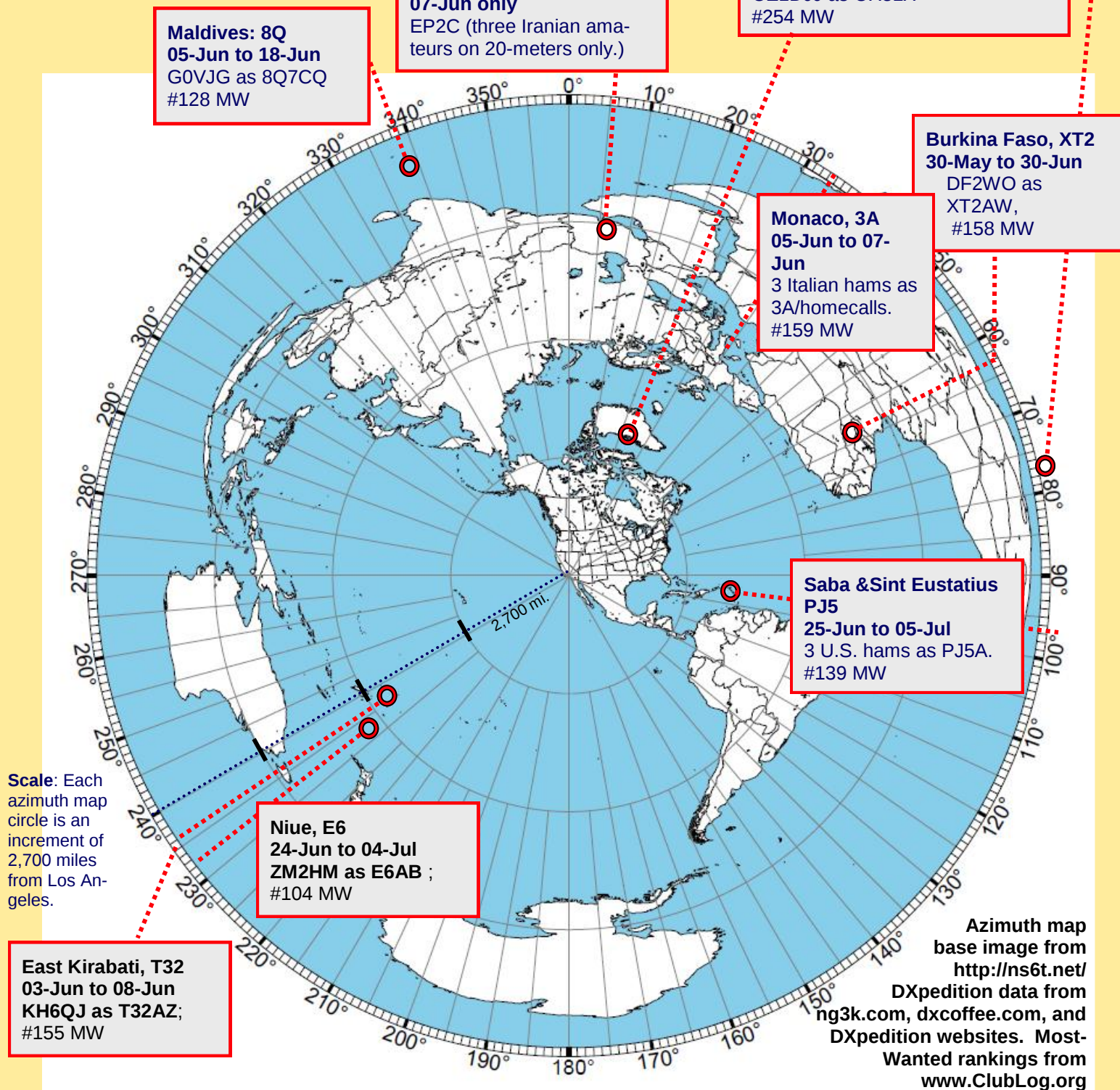
I want to thank everyone for your contributions, some very extensive, to date, and hope that you will continue to be part of this major expedition adventure. When it's all over, I will, of course, write the book about it, and your part will be appropriately presented and appreciated.

Bob"◆

No major DXpeditions in June 2015 but various wanted entities will be on the air

By Diana Feinberg, AI6DF

Here are some DXpeditions this month and into early July, chosen by their ranking on ClubLog's "Most-Wanted" list and seasonality.



Latest SCDXC Member “Get Schroeder Contest” Standings

(ClubLog database, May 28, 2015: It's N6QQ and NS6C running neck-and-neck)

Rank	Callsign	160	80	60	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	6	DXCC	Slots
1	N6QQ	1	0	0	113	85	202	161	195	120	173	0	240	1050
2	NS6C	2	14	0	52	50	103	54	82	66	64	0	237	487
3	W8DX	2	6	0	57	34	81	43	49	33	44	0	185	349
4	K6SS	5	13	0	42	11	88	47	115	51	46	1	183	419
5	AI6Z	3	10	0	43	9	77	10	112	14	85	0	183	363
6	K6IPV	8	25	0	19	29	46	54	65	59	64	2	160	371
7	N6VNI	0	18	0	49	10	70	33	63	35	46	0	152	324
8	KT6LA	0	37	0	23	0	64	1	106	1	73	0	130	305
9	K6FG	1	2	0	13	11	52	45	23	33	29	1	117	210
10	W6KC	0	0	0	32	0	73	1	84	1	58	0	113	249
11	N6DBF	0	9	0	36	1	67	18	49	21	44	1	111	246
12	AD6LV	0	3	0	22	0	59	4	71	8	46	0	111	213
13	AC6DX	0	4	0	14	15	10	32	41	9	65	3	111	193
14	NK6A	0	0	0	5	2	58	2	69	3	85	0	108	224
15	ZL3TE	0	6	0	28	23	49	26	46	22	43	0	98	243
16	N6GP	0	1	0	0	0	36	1	51	5	54	0	71	148
17	W6OU	1	5	0	19	4	38	26	30	13	16	0	69	152
18	KR6C	1	3	0	2	5	24	7	27	19	17	0	66	105
19	N6RU	0	1	0	4	0	22	2	20	7	45	0	62	101
20	KM6HB	1	4	0	8	8	21	13	27	15	25	0	61	122
21	W6DR	8	22	0	34	1	16	2	17	5	19	0	58	124
22	K7MY	0	2	0	0	1	23	5	18	5	28	0	52	82
23	AI6DF	1	0	0	0	0	11	0	40	0	26	0	51	78
24	K6JEY	0	5	0	26	0	18	0	20	0	4	0	44	73
25	W6QE	0	0	0	1	0	11	0	16	0	10	0	32	38
26	W6MPB	0	0	0	1	0	10	0	2	0	4	0	17	17
27	W6ZPL	0	0	0	0	0	5	3	8	0	8	0	16	24
28	K7LA	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	10	2	3	0	15	19
29	W6SR	1	0	0	1	4	1	3	2	2	0	0	12	14
30	K6AFW	0	0	0	0	6	4	1	0	0	2	0	12	13
31	W6VX	1	0	0	2	1	4	5	1	3	0	0	11	17
32	W6SW	0	0	0	0	0	6	2	1	2	2	0	9	13
33	K6NQY	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	3	4	0	8	11
34	SM5GMZ	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	1	2	2	0	7	9
35	W6YOO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	4	4
36	KK6FJQ	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	3	4
37	K6YUI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	3	3
38	N6DHz	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1

A note about ClubLog: The above standings only reflect SCDXC members who are registered with ClubLog, requested inclusion with the SCDXC Club League, and uploaded their 2015 QSOs to ClubLog. Just 44 SCDXC members are “Active” on ClubLog; another 20 are classed as “Inactive” or declined to disclose DX information. Worldwide, 43,913 hams registered with ClubLog as of May 28, 2015.

Propagation Report and Forecast

By: Diana Feinberg, AI6DF

The latest NOAA/USAF propagation forecasts call for a relatively stable month of June, with the Solar Flux Index peaking at 120 by month-end. The lowest projected SFI values are 90 on June 16-17 and June 25.

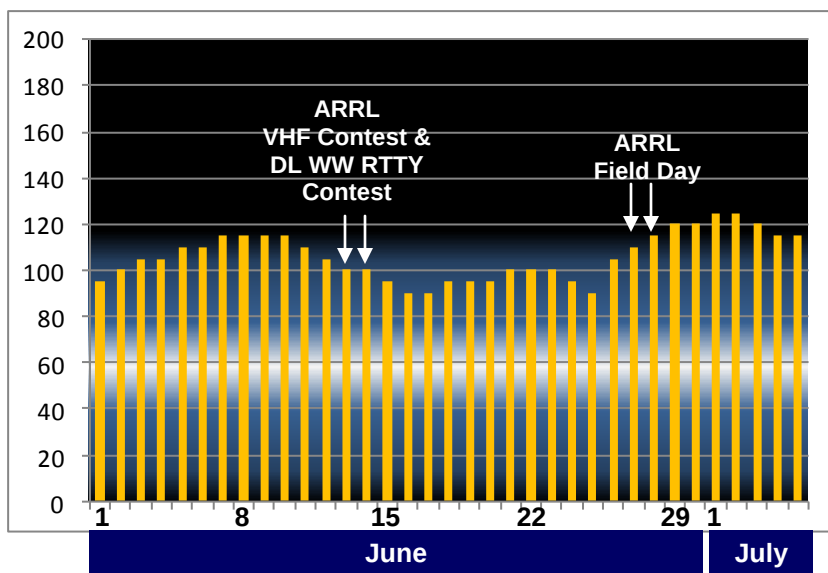
So far, ARRL Field Day is shaping up to have decent conditions with forecasts for SFI of 115-118 and quiet Planetary A-index readings of 5.

The international sunspot count rebounded slightly during April to 54.4 from 38.4 in March. Sunspots briefly reached the 70-80 level around Memorial Day Weekend before backing down.

Sporadic-E propagation is always the Wild Card at this time of year. This year's summer ARRL VHF Contest is June 13-14; hopefully conditions will be conducive to 6-meter propagation to/from the West Coast.

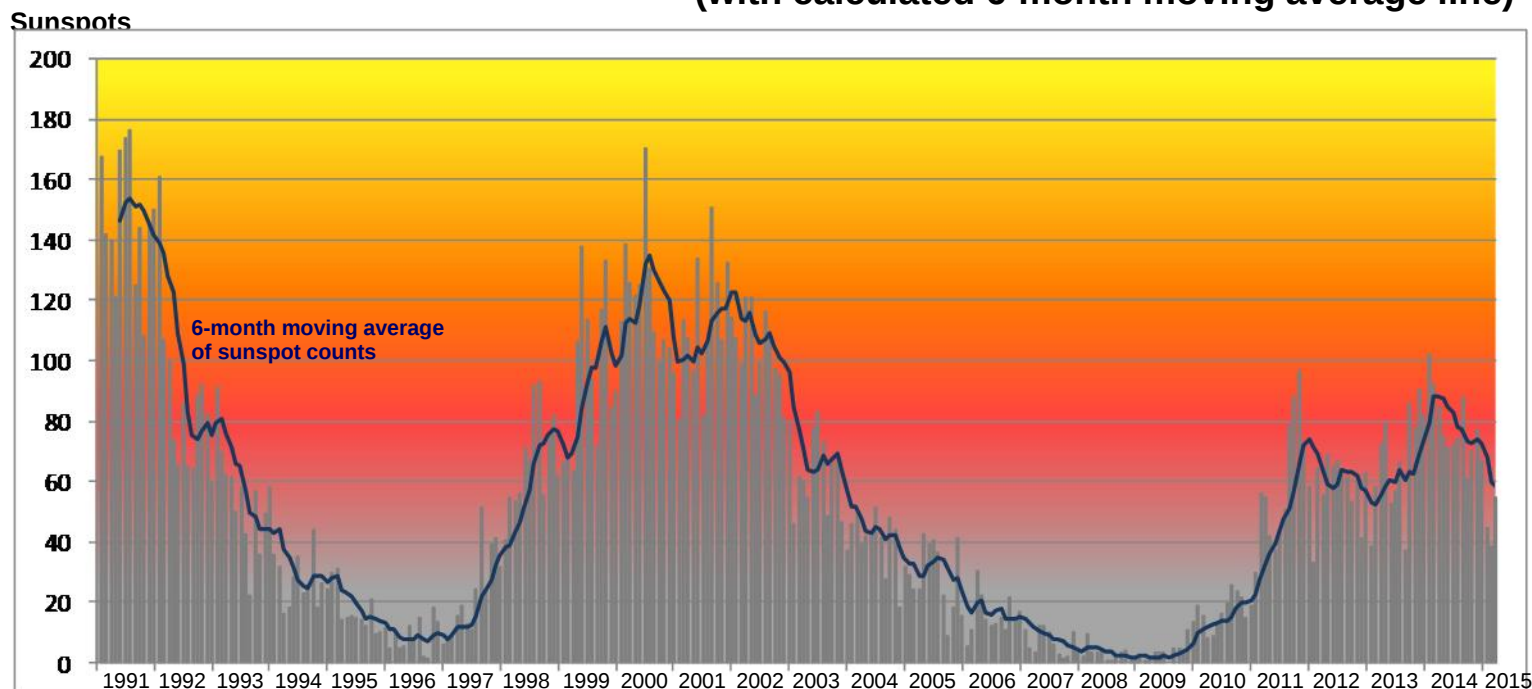
June 13-14 is also the DL RTTY Contest Group Worldwide RTTY Contest. ♦

Solar Flux Index Forecasts



Mostly steady SFI forecast in June: Latest NOAA/USAF forecast for Solar Flux Index during June is highest just after ARRL Field Day weekend, June 26-27. Of course, solar events could change these forecasts.

ISES Monthly Sunspot Counts, 1991-2015 (with calculated 6-month moving average line)



Graph design:

Diana Feinberg, AI6DF, using ISES sunspot data from NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center, <http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/products/solar-cycle-progression>, with 6-month moving average line plotted through April 2015.

The 2015 SCDXC Board of Directors



President
George Jacob
N6VNI



Vice President
Doug Millar
K6JEY



Secretary
Kris Jacob
KC6TOD



Treasurer
Cathy Gardenias
K6VC



Membership Chair
Mel Hughes
K6SY



Past President
Wayne Spring
W6IRD



Director
Sharon Spring
K6IRD



Director
Joe Locascio
K5KT

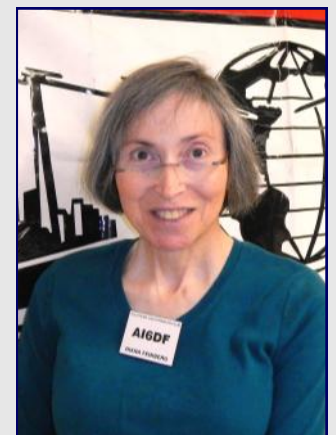
APPOINTED POSITIONS



W6AM Repeater Chair
Rich Bongiorno
W6VX



Webmaster and Historian
Jim Shryne
N6DHZ



Editor, SCDXC Newsletter
Diana Feinberg
A16DF



HAMCON 2015

The ARRL 2015 Southwestern Division Convention returns to the Los Angeles area and explores Amateur Radio's second century.

September 11-13, 2015

Explore, learn, and meet amateur radio's future

See what's new under the Sun at the largest ham radio convention in the Southwestern United States:

Four program tracks looking at the future

- Emergency Communication
- DXing and Long-Distance Communication
- Technical Topics
- Topics for New Hams

Win ham radio prizes

Every paid registered attendee receives four free door prize tickets and has an equal chance to win—no tickets will be sold.

65-booth Vendor/Exhibitor Hall

See and purchase the latest in ham radio equipment, speak directly with many manufacturers and retailers.

**MEET
FELLOW HAMS
FROM ACROSS THE
SOUTHWEST.**

Early-bird registrations get free patch or pin with distinctive convention logo, shown above.

Other things you can do at HAMCON 2015:

Operate ARRL station W1AW/6, participate in a "Fox Hunt," get initiated in the ARRL Wouff Hong, inspect emergency communication vehicles of area government-affiliated amateur radio groups, ARRL QSL checking, get licensed or upgrade at VE session.

Visit <http://www.hamconinc.org/> to register online, download a registration form, make special-rate hotel reservations, or get updated convention program information. Early-bird registration ends August 1, 2015.

HOTEL INFORMATION



The Torrance Marriott South Bay Hotel
3835 Fashion Way, Torrance, CA 90503

Our convention site is one of the area's top hotels. A special discounted \$119 per night rate (including free in-room high-speed internet and discounted \$5 per night parking) is available to HAMCON 2015 attendees. Online reservations at this special rate can only be made through Marriott's link on HAMCON's website, www.hamconinc.org then click on Hotel Reservations in the Main Menu. Or call Marriott at 1-800-228-9290 and say, "HAMCON Convention." Act now: This special rate is only available for reservations made by Aug. 15, 2015.



Western Amateur Radio Association

NOW OFFERING AMATEUR RADIO VE TESTING SESSIONS

Contact V.E. George T. Jacob Jr. N6VNI

Phone Numbers: Home Phone: 562/691-7898 Cell Phone: 562/544-7373

Email: jac2247@gmail.com Or N6VNI@arri.net

**Sponsoring Club: N6ME Western Amateur Radio Association,
Fullerton, Ca. "WARA"**

Test site location:

La Habra Community Center.

101 W. La Habra Blvd., La Habra, CA 90631

Date and Times - Third Thursday of every month, @ 6 P.M. unless otherwise noted. Pre-Registration is requested and preferred. Walk-ins are welcome.

2015 TESTING SESSIONS

Thursday, January 15th, 2015 6 p.m.

Thursday, February 19th, 2015 6 p.m.

Thursday, March 19th, 2015 6 p.m.

**Thursday, April 16th, 2015 6 p.m. NOTE: Location change –this date only
(Home of George N6VNI, 1901 W. El Portal Drive, La Habra, CA 90631)**

**Thursday, May 21st, 2015 6 p.m. NOTE: Location change – this date only
(Home of George N6VNI, 1901 W. El Portal Drive, La Habra, CA 90631)**

Thursday, June 18th, 2015 6 p.m.

Thursday, July 16th, 2015 6 p.m.

Thursday, August 20th, 2015 6 p.m.

Thursday, September 17th, 2015 6 p.m.

Thursday, October 15th, 2015 6 p.m..

Thursday, November 19th, 2015 6 p.m.

On Exam Day Bring the Following Items

- A legal photo ID (driver's license, passport) or Two forms of non-photo ID; e.g., birth certificate, social security card, library card, utility bill or other business correspondence with name of the examinee as it appears on the Form 605 and current mailing address.
- Your Social Security Number (SSN) or FCC-issued Federal Registration Number (FRN).
- If applicable, the original and a photocopy of your current Amateur Radio license and any Certificates of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE) you may have from previous exam session. (Photocopies will not be returned.)
- Two number two pencils with erasers, and a pen.
- A calculator with memory erased and formulas cleared (no iPhones, iPads, etc.).
- Test Fee: \$15.00 (cash or check).

If you fail an element and wish to retake it, we are required to charge an additional test fee. If you pass an element, we typically offer and encourage you to take the next element. We do not charge an additional test fee for this and it gives you the opportunity to see what the next exam element is like!



**HAM
RADIO
OUTLET**
WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION

Mon - Fri: 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM
Sat: 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Tel: (714) 521-8080
Fax: (714) 521-8920

"Since 1996"
FORD Electronics, Inc.
Electronic Parts Distributor
Wholesale • Industrial • Commercial
Network Equipment

8431 Commonwealth Ave., Buena Park, CA 90621-2527
Email: sales@fordel.com

Store	E-mail	Direct	Toll Free	Fax
Anaheim	ana@hamradio.com	1-714-533-7373	1-800-854-6046	1-714-533-9485
Burbank	bnk@hamradio.com	1-818-842-1786	1-800-854-6046	1-818-842-5283
San Diego	sd@hamradio.com	1-858-560-4900	1-800-854-6046	1-858-560-1705

The DX Store

No BS. Just good old fashioned customer service.

Heil PRO7 Simply The Best

Black

Red



Pink

Blue

Available in Four Colors

sales@dxstore.com
www.dxstore.com



WU6D/K6VC



K6YRA

Tower and Antenna

Installation and Service

By

Skip Bolnick, KJ6Y

Communications Service Co

22712 Califa St.

Woodland Hills, Ca. 91367

818-887-3569

KJ6Y@aol.com

<http://www.kj6v.com>

Specializing in Tri-Ex and US Towers
Over 35 years experience.

I've worked for many of the big "Dxer's and Small Pistols" in Southern California and around the country.

Contact me for your tower and antenna needs. Complete turnkey installations, tower, antenna and rotator service. Thank You.



W6FL



N6TCZ

Agoura PC Services

Jerry Lewine

1149 Oban Drive
Los Angeles, California 90065

(818) 451-9967

Jerry@AgouraPC.com



**Electrical Distribution Systems
Design & Installation**

Urban E. Stiess - W6MPB

CBT, CBNT, CTO

CSLB# 842820 FCC# PG00010828

W6MPB@ATT.NET

323-295-5411



hamcity.com

The Wireless Communication Warehouse

Sales: *Local: (310) 390-8003 *FAX: (310) 390-4393

Email Support: sales@hamcity.com

Live Support via Instant Msg *AIM: hamcityim

*Yahoo hamcityim

*MSN: